

\$10 REWARD

We shall give \$10.00 in gold as a first prize, and \$5.00 as a second prize, to the boy or girl under eighteen years of age writing the best poem of two or more verses, using the MONARCH RANGE as subject of the poem. All poems to be handed in before 6 P. M. on February 16, 1905.

CHARLES HEILBORN & SON

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Today's Weather.

Portland, Feb. 10.—For Western Oregon—Saturday, fair; continued cold in the north and colder in the south portion.

IMPROVE THE RIVERS.

For the benefit of the entire state, there should be more of a unanimity of sentiment between Portland and Astoria. What benefits Astoria benefits Portland and what benefits Portland benefits Astoria. Both cities should work in harmony to secure appropriations for the river and bar. Actions of Portland's prominent business men discouraging work of the Chinook on the bar does not tend to the promulgation of harmony, and neither can afford to be antagonistic. Astoria wants to see a deep river between Tongue point and Portland and the building up of our merchant marine. Astoria does not seek to discredit any improvements that will bring ships to Portland, as it is the natural distributing point of the state. Any legislation for any part or section of the state, either state or national, should receive the support of the entire people irrespective of location or that one locality receives more benefits this year than some other locality. Every section of the state is working to make the Lewis and Clark fair a success, even though Portland does receive the larger share of direct benefits. Every other section will receive some benefit and intending locators and investors will be distributed throughout different sections of the state.

The fair is for the purpose of advertising the great opportunities of every county in the state. The commerce of the Columbia river will also benefit indirectly every section of the state. Portland and Astoria's interests are identical, and all improvements tending to build up the commercial interests of the state should have the support of commercial organizations and business men in both cities. There is no reason why Puget sound should be built up at the expense of Oregon. A good and sufficient channel can be built between Astoria and Portland. All monies appropriated by congress are judiciously and economically spent and the monies thus spent flow through the channels of trade reaching every section of the state. What is wanted is a water way that will carry the products of Oregon to the markets of the world, affording as cheap transportation as is possible to secure.

Oregon has more and greater resources than any other state on the Pacific coast and to develop these resources and distribute home seekers and wealth to every section should be the motive to actuate everyone. Every county in the state has inducements to offer. There has never been a failure of crops and they are increasing each year as the soil is farmed or industries established. Portland is the largest city on the North Pacific coast and upon its prosperity depends to a great extent the prosperity of every locality. The Oregonian is and has treated every section fair and is a powerful lever in moulding public opinion, and through its earnest efforts large accessions to the population of the state is secured. For a few of its business men to antagonize other sections, or object to needed improvements creates dissension and distrust, and their opinions do not voice the sentiment of the people of Portland. The people of Astoria want to see Portland and every city in the state grow and expand. It is in favor of any legislation beneficial to the

state, whether Astoria receives a direct benefit from it or not for no section can be benefited without an indirect benefit to all. Harmony and united action will build up the state and everyone should work for a common cause.

SIGNAL OF DISTRESS.

The Finnish residents of Astoria do not look with much favor on the promised reforms of the czar of Russia, of whom they are subjects. His proclamation pledging certain reforms is a confession of fear. It comes as a response to the world's indignation, as voiced by the leading newspapers of the different countries, at the blindness and arrogance of himself and his ministers. The loudest note in this chorus of condemnation is sounded in the capital of his ally, France. While the newspapers which are the recognized organs of the various governments are cautious in their criticisms, the press which is free from governmental surveillance is emphatic in its denunciation. No newspaper of consequence in any American city is so outspoken in its condemnation of the czar as are many of the influential journals of Paris. No attempt to curb them has been made by the Rouvier cabinet. Not a word of warning or remonstrance, so far as the world has heard, has been sent to the editors by Foreign Minister Delcasse. The probability is that the warning would not be heeded if it had been sent. Russia has never offered greater provocation for the indignation of the world.

It will be noticed that the czar's pledges are vague. They touch only a few of the grievances of the Russian people, and these few are only the minor ones. Even on these points if the word of promise be intended, to be kept, which many of Astoria's local Finnish residents do not believe, it will probably be kept only to the ear and broken to the hope. There is a significance in the circumstance, however, that promises of any sort are made, or that any kind of an answer is given by the czar to the peoples appeal except by the mouth of his canon. The old paternal tone is simulated in the proclamation, but it is not calculated to deceive any persons any longer.

The authorities assert that the disturbances at St. Petersburg are ended. Very likely this is correct. All is quiet along the Neva. Nicholas' 100,000 troops have made a solitude in St. Petersburg, and they call it peace. But the area of the uprising is extending. Moscow, Riga, Saratoff, Sevastopol, Odessa and other cities in the czar's realm are disturbed. Premonitions of an outbreak are seen in various towns in Poland. In Helsingfors Finland's principal city, there has been a collision between the populace and the soldiers. England, too, through its ambassador at St. Petersburg, has demanded an explanation of that part of the czar's proclamation which lays the blame for the uprising on Great Britain and Japan. Tokio is proclaiming that Japan in the war against Russian autocracy is fighting the Russian populace's battle. Burke declared in parliament that Washington was battling for the liberties of the British masses, and he was vindicated by the reforms which came in England after the Americans had won their independence.

By one of the fateful ironies of politics the two nations which figure as the most resolute enemies of the Russian government are, through this very circumstance the most powerful allies of the Russian people. The stars in their courses are fighting against the czar and his counsellors. Absolutism has not yet said its last word, any may not for years or decades to come, but blows have been dealt which will count for liberty. Even in Russia revolutions do not go backward. The outbreak of the populace may be checked, but it is not dead, only sleeping.

UNJUST MEASURE.

Representative Burns has introduced a bill in the house compelling all street car companies in the state to pay a proportionate share of the cost of improving streets over which their lines run. The bill is aimed directly at the Astoria Electric Company, and the motive that actuates it is apparent. The state has no right to legislate for street improvements in incorporated cities and towns. That is a matter that is vested in the common council. Every street car company has a franchise granted by the city and the bill introduced by Burns is

an effort to annul those franchises. The Astoria street car company has spent thousands of dollars in Astoria to improve its system and is contemplating spending more. Such bills only tend to drive capital away and shows a dense ignorance of justice. Capital will not invest in any community where such laws exist. In Astoria under the terms of the franchise the street car company is required to improve the street between the rails and for a space of one foot on each side, and this is a fair and equitable portion for them to assume. The legislature cannot pass any law that will impair the obligations of a contract between a municipality and a street car company. Charters are granted to municipal corporations in which are granted the power to grant franchises and regulate street car companies. State interference aside from this is unwarranted and unjust.

Against Vaudeville.

Portland, Feb. 10.—When Minnie Louise White, in her suit for a divorce from Elmer E. White, before Judge Frazer this morning, said that her three children, two boys and a girl, were in the custody of her husband and performing at the Baker theater, the court instructed the district attorney to issue an order to the sheriff to arrest the children and take them out of the theater. "Children of such youthful ages should not be allowed to be used in such business and this court will not allow it when the facts are as evident as in this case," was the judgment of the court.

Use Jap Coal.

Seattle, Feb. 9.—Bids for supplying 5000 tons of coal to the United States government at Honolulu were opened at the office of the United States quartermaster yesterday afternoon. J. J. Moore & Co. of San Francisco, were the lowest bidders, their offer being \$5.12 a ton, the coal to be furnished from Yoshimo, Japan. Other bids were from the Northwestern Improvement Company of Roslyn, the price being \$6 a ton, and from the Pacific Coast Company of this city, which filed two bids, one for Wellington coal at \$7.92, and one for Pelan Main coal at \$6.67 a ton.

The Corset in 2000 B. C.

Mr. Arthur Evans, the Oxford archeologist, who made so many interesting discoveries in the so called palace of Minos, in Crete, found in a subterranean sanctuary certain very ancient small earthenware statues, representing some goddess and two of her servants. The dress of the figures is highly modern. The goddess, we grieve to say, wears a corset—just such a corset as contemporary man shyly wonders at in the windows of a department store.—Everybody's.

A Japanese Peculiarity.

"When a Japanese servant is rebuked or scolded," says a traveler, "he must smile like a Cheshire cat. The etiquette in smiles is very misleading at first. I often used to think that Taki, my riksha 'boy,' meant to be impertinent when he insisted on smiling when I was angry at him. But when he told me of the death of his little child with a burst of laughter I knew that this was only one of the curious details of etiquette in this topsy turvy land."

Not So Bad For Him.

"Yes, I used to be in the insurance business. I once got a man to take out a \$50,000 policy only about a week before he happened to be killed. He was a mighty hard chap to land too. I had to talk to him for nearly six months before I got him."

"That was tough on the company. I suppose you regretted after it was all over that your persuasive powers were so good."

"Um—no, I never felt sorry about it. I married the widow."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A Diplomatic Reply.

An eastern potentate once asked a group of his courtiers which they thought the greater man, himself or his father. At first he could elicit no reply so dangerous a question. At last a wily old courtier said, "Your father, sire, for, though you are equal to your father in all other respects, in this he is superior to you, that he had a greater son than any you have." He was promoted on the spot.

Cause and Effect.

The census bureau tells us that there is an overplus of women in the cities and a shortage in the rural districts. Merely in a desultory way it may be mentioned that there are not so many show windows in the country as in the city.—Cincinnati Post.

He Knew.

Father—But do you think you can make my daughter happy? Suitor—Happy! Say, you should just have seen her when I proposed!—Brooklyn Life.

The beauty seen is partly in him who sees it.—Bovee.

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